

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims.

91 1. (Amended) A contacts block mechanism of an IC contact card reader having a contacts block that contacts an input/output terminal on a card surface of an IC contact card for signal transmissions, comprising:

Sub C1 contacts placed in said contacts block for making contact with said input/output terminal;

contacts attach/detach means for moving said contacts block into contact with or away from said input/output terminal; and

an IC card control circuit board mounted to said contacts block, to which one end of said contacts is electrically connected for signal transmissions with said IC card.

2. (Amended) The contacts block mechanism of an IC contact card reader as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said contacts attach/detach means includes a swing arm that turns said contacts block into contact with or away from said input/output terminal and an actuator for driving said swing arm.

92 5. (Amended) The contacts block mechanism of an IC contact card reader as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising:

Comp Sub C1 a frame, to which said members of said contacts block mechanism are fixed, and which, in turn, is attached to a predetermined position in said IC contact card reader.

Please add the following new claims.

94 -- 6. (New) An IC contact card reader comprising:
a contacts block operable to contact an I/O terminal disposed on an IC contact card, the contacts block including:

contacts disposed in the contacts block for contacting the I/O terminal of the IC contact card; and

a control circuit board mounted to the contacts block for movement with the contacts block, one end of the contacts being electrically connected to the control circuit board, the control circuit board being operable to communicate with the IC contact card; and

a contacts block mover operable to bring the contacts block into contact with the I/O terminal of the IC contact card and to move the contacts block away from the I/O terminal.

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7. (New) The IC contact card reader as set forth in Claim 6 wherein the contacts block mover includes:

a swing arm that turns the contacts block towards or away from the I/O terminal of the IC contact card; and

an actuator for driving the swing arm.

8. (New) The IC contact card reader as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the contacts block mover includes a switch and a moving member, the switch being capable of making contact with or separating from the IC contact card during transporting, and said moving member being linked with the movement of the switch for bringing the contacts block into contact with the I/O terminal. --
